INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal ication No PCT/IB 03/05363

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G11B21/08 G11E G11B5/55 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G11B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category 9 Relevant to claim No. X US 6 396 653 B1 (BERNETT FRANK WILLIAM ET 1-5. AL) 28 May 2002 (2002-05-28) 8-12. cited in the application 22-24 the whole document X PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1-5,7, vol. 2000, no. 24, 22-24 11 May 2001 (2001-05-11) & JP 2001 195846 A (NEC CORP), 19 July 2001 (2001-07-19) abstract X PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1-5 vol. 1999, no. 10, 22-24 31 August 1999 (1999-08-31) & JP 11 126422 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), 11 May 1999 (1999-05-11) abstract Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 17 February 2004 23/02/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Benfield, A

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